Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. *(**currently** amended):* A peptide according to formula (I) or a salt thereof:

$$\underset{\text{A1-A2-A3-Cys-Tyr-A4-A5-A6-A7-A8-A9-A10-Cys-A11}}{\overset{1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6\ 7\ 8\ 9\ 10\ 11\ 12\ 13\ 14}{}} \quad \textbf{(I)}$$

wherein:

amino acid positions are numbered 1-14 and each amino acid may be a D- or L-amino acid;

A1 is an arginine, lysine, ornithine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ which is derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen with a substituted benzoyl group~~N-terminal~~, or Al is ~~deleted~~absent;

A2 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ when ~~if~~ A1 is ~~an~~ arginine, lysine, ornithine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid~~, residue which may be derivatized at the N-terminal~~, or

if A1 is absent, A2 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue which may be~~ derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen with a substituted benzoyl group~~N-terminal if A1 is deleted~~;

A3 is ~~represents~~ an aromatic amino acid ~~residue~~;

A4 and~~,~~ A5 ~~and A9 each~~ independently is ~~represents an~~ arginine, lysine, ornithine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A6 ~~represents a~~ is proline, glycine, ornithine, lysine, alanine, citrulline, arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A7 ~~represents a~~ is proline, glycine, ornithine, lysine, alanine, citrulline or arginine ~~residue~~;

A8 is ~~represents a~~ tyrosine, phenylalanine, alanine, naphthylalanine, citrulline or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A9 is arginine, lysine, ornithine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid;

A10 is ~~represents a~~ citrulline, glutamic acid, arginine or lysine ~~residue~~;

A11 is ~~represents an~~ arginine, glutamic acid, lysine or citrulline ~~residue~~ or a ~~which may be derivatized at~~ C-terminal derivative thereof; and

~~wherein~~ the cysteines at ~~residues of the 4~~ positions 4 and ~~the~~ 13 ~~position~~ are optionally ~~can form a~~ disulfide-bonded ~~bond, and the amino acid can be either L or D form~~.

2. *(**currently** amended)*: The peptide according to claim 1, wherein:

A1 is ~~an~~ arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ which is derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen ~~N-terminal~~, or A1 is absent~~deleted~~;

A2 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ when ~~if~~ A1 is an arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue which may be derivatized at the N-terminal~~, or

If A1 is absent, A2 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic ~~acid residue which may be~~ derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen with a substituted benzoyl group~~N-terminal if A1 is deleted~~;

A4 ~~represents an~~ is arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A5 ~~represents an~~ is arginine, citrulline, alanine, lysine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A6 ~~represents a~~ is lysine, alanine, citrulline or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A7 ~~represents a~~ is proline or alanine ~~residue~~;

A8 ~~represents a~~ is tyrosine, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A9 ~~represents an~~ is arginine, citrulline or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A10 ~~represents a~~ is citrulline or glutamic acid ~~residue~~; and

A11 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue which may be derivatized at the~~ or a C-terminal derivative thereof.

3. *(**currently** amended)*: The peptide according to claim 1, wherein

A1 is [[a]] glutamic acid ~~residue~~ which is derivatized at α-amino nitrogen~~the N-terminal~~, or A1 is absent~~deleted~~.

4. (CANCELLED)

5. *(**currently** amended)*: The peptide according to claim 1, wherein any one of A2, A4, A6, A8, and A9 is [[a]] glutamic acid ~~residue~~.

6. (CANCELLED)

7. *(**currently** amended)*: The peptide according to claim 1, wherein A5 ~~represents an~~ is arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~.

8. *(currently amended)*: The peptide of ~~or its salt~~ claim 7 or a salt thereof, wherein A5 ~~represents a~~ is glutamic acid ~~residue~~.

9. *(currently amended)*: The peptide according to claim 1, wherein A10 is ~~represents~~ aglutamic acid, arginine or lysine ~~residue~~.

10. *(currently amended)*: The peptide according to claim 1, wherein A11 is ~~represents a~~ glutamic acid, lysine or citrulline ~~residue~~.

11 to 13. (CANCELLED)

14. *(currently amended)*: A peptide having the sequence as set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 11-68, or a salt thereof:

(1) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:11);
(2) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:12);
(3) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:13);
(4) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:14);
(5) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:15);
(6) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:16);
(7) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:17);
(8) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:18);
(9) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:19);
(10) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:20);
(11) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:21);
(12) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:22);
(13) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:23);
(14) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:24);
(15) [[H-]]DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:25);
(16) [[H-]]Arg-Glu-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:26);
(17) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Glu-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:27);
(18) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Glu-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:28);
(19) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:29);
(20) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Glu-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:30);
(21) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Glu[[-OH]] (SEQ ID NO:31);
(22) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:32);
(23) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-DGlu-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:33);
(24) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-DGlu-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:34);

(25) [[H-]]DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:35);

(26) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-DGlu-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:36);

(27) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-DGlu-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:37);

(28) Ac-DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:38);

(29) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-DGlu-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:39);

(30) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-DGlu-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:40);

(31) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:41);

(32) guanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:42);

(33) TMguanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:43);

(34) TMguanyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:44);

(35) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:45);

(36) 2F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:46);

(37) APA-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:47);

(38) desamino-R-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:48);

(39) guanyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:49);

(40) succinyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:50);

(41) glutaryl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:51);

(42) deaminoTMG-APA-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:52);

(43) nelfinaviryl-succinyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:53);

(44) AZT-glutaryl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:54);

(45) R-CH2-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:55);

(46) [[H-]]Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:56);

(47) TMguanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:57);

(48) ACA-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:58);

(49) ACA-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:59);

(50) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Arg-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:60);

(51) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Arg-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:61);

(52) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:62);

(53) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:63);

(54) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:64);

(55) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NHMe (SEQ ID NO:65);

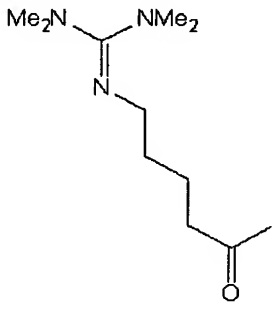
(56) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NHEt (SEQ ID NO:66);

(57) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NHiPr (SEQ ID NO:67); or

(58) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-tyramine (SEQ ID NO:68);

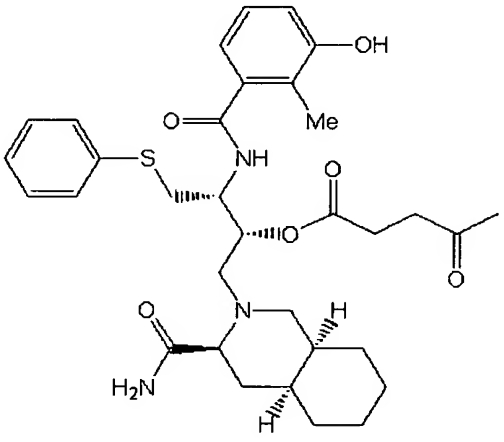
wherein,

in each of peptides (1)-(58)~~sequence~~, the designation ~~symbol~~ appearing before ~~as part of~~ the N-terminal amino acid represents a chemical derivative ~~shows derivatization or non-derivatization~~ of the α-amino nitrogen~~group; H shows non-derivatization~~, Ac is ~~shows~~ acetyl ~~group~~, ~~guanyl shows guanyl group, succinyl shows succinyl group, glutaryl shows glutaryl group~~, TMguanyl is ~~shows~~ tetra-methyl guanyl-~~group~~, 2F-benzoyl is ~~shows~~ 2-fluorobenzoyl ~~group~~, 4F-benzoyl is ~~shows~~ 4-fluorobenzoyl-~~group~~, APA is ~~shows~~ 5-amino-pentanoyl-~~group~~, ACA is ~~shows~~ 6-amino-hexanoyl-~~group~~, desamino-R is ~~shows~~ 2-desamino-arginyl-~~group~~, deaminoTMG-APA is ~~shows the following~~ formula (II),



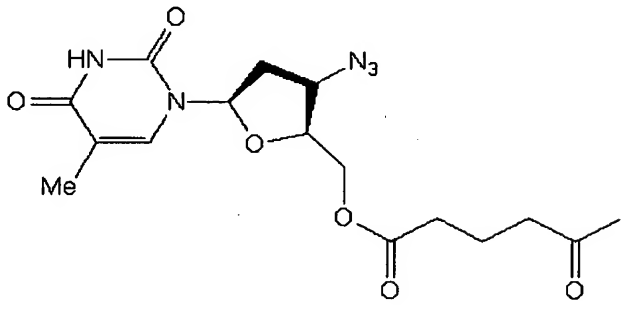
(II)

nelfinaviryl-succinyl is ~~shows the following~~ formula (III),



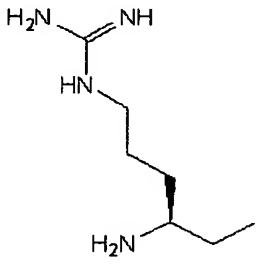
(III).

AZT-glutaryl is ~~shows the following~~ formula (IV),



(IV)

R-CH^2 is ~~shows~~ the ~~following~~ formula (V)



(V);

the amino acids are abbreviated as follows: Arg is ~~shows~~ L-arginine ~~residue~~, Nal is ~~show~~ L-3-(2-naphthyl)alanine ~~residue~~, Cys is ~~shows~~ L-cysteine ~~residue~~, Tyr is ~~shows~~ L-tyrosine ~~residue~~, Cit ~~showsis~~ L-citrulline ~~residue~~, Lys ~~showsis~~ L-lysine ~~residue~~, DLys ~~showsis~~ D-lysine ~~residue~~, Pro ~~showsis~~ L-proline ~~residue~~, DCit ~~showsis~~ D-citrulline ~~residue~~, DGlu ~~showsis~~ D-glutamic acid ~~residue~~, Glu ~~showsis~~ L-glutamic acid ~~residue,~~;

the two [[2]]cysteine residues in each peptide are bonded ~~combined~~ by an intramolecular disulfide bond, and

the designation ~~symbol~~ after ~~attached to~~ the ~~right part of~~ C-terminal amino acid ~~shows~~ represents a chemical derivative ~~derivatization or non-derivatization~~ of the terminal carboxyl group, ~~OH shows non-derivatization~~, NH_2 ~~shows~~represents -amidation by an amino group, NHMe ~~shows~~ represents amidation by a methylamino group, NHEt ~~shows~~ represents amidation by an ethylamino group, and NHiPr ~~shows~~ represents amidation by an isopropylamino group~~, tyramine shows amidation by p-hydroxyphenylethylamino group~~.

15. ***(currently amended)***: A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a peptide according to claim 1 ~~formula (I)~~ or a salt thereof; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

16. (CANCELLED)

17. *(currently amended)*: A method for preventing or treating cancers or chronic rheumatoid arthritis in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide according to formula (I) or a salt thereof:

$$\underset{\text{A1-A2-A3-Cys-Tyr-A4-A5-A6-A7-A8-A9-A10-Cys-A11}}{\overset{1\ \ 2\ \ 3\ \ 4\ \ \ 5\ \ 6\ \ 7\ \ 8\ \ 9\ \ 10\ 11\ 12\ \ 13\ \ 14}{\phantom{\text{A1-A2-A3-Cys-Tyr-A4-A5-A6-A7-A8-A9-A10-Cys-A11}}}} \qquad \textbf{(I)}$$

wherein:

amino acid positions are numbered 1-14 and each amino acid may be a D- or L-amino acid;

A1 is ~~an~~ arginine, lysine, ornithine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ or a derivative thereof ~~which is~~ derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen ~~N-terminal~~, or A1 is absent ~~deleted~~;

A2 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ when ~~if~~ A1 is ~~an~~ arginine, lysine, ornithine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid, ~~residue~~ or

if A1 is absent, ~~which may be derivatized at the N-terminal, or~~ A2 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ which is optionally ~~may be~~ derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen ~~N-terminal if A1 is deleted~~;

A3 is ~~represents~~ an aromatic amino acid ~~residue~~;

A4 and~~,~~ A5 ~~and A9 each~~ independently are ~~represents an~~ arginine, lysine, ornithine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A6 is ~~represents a~~ proline, glycine, ornithine, lysine, alanine, citrulline, arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A7 is ~~represents a~~ proline, glycine, ornithine, lysine, alanine, citrulline or arginine ~~residue~~;

A8 is ~~represents a~~ tyrosine, phenylalanine, alanine, naphthylalanine, citrulline or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A9 is arginine, lysine, ornithine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid;

A10 is ~~represents a~~ citrulline, glutamic acid, arginine or lysine ~~residue~~;

A11 is ~~represents an~~ arginine, glutamic acid, lysine or citrulline ~~residue~~ or a ~~which may be derivatized at the~~ C-terminal derivative thereof; and

~~wherein~~ the cysteine residues ~~of the~~ at positions 4 ~~position~~ and 11 ~~the 13 position~~ are optionally ~~can form a~~ disulfide ~~bonded~~ ~~bond, and the amino acid can be either L or D form~~.

18. *(**currently** amended)*: The method according to claim 17 wherein the cancer is breast cancer or pancreatic cancer.

19 - 22. (CANCELLED)

23. *(previously presented)* The peptide according to claim 14 numbered (35) and (54) having, respectively, the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:45 or in SEQ ID NO:64.

24. *(**currently** amended)*: The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein:

A1 is ~~an~~ arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ which is derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen ~~N-terminal~~, or A1 is deleted;

A2 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue if~~ when A1 is [[an]] arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue which may be~~ derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen ~~N-terminal~~, or

if A1 is absent, A2 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ which is ~~may be~~ derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen~~N-terminal if A1 is deleted~~;

A4 is ~~represents an~~ arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A5 is ~~represents an~~ arginine, citrulline, alanine, lysine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A6 is ~~represents a~~ lysine, alanine, citrulline or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A7 is ~~represents a~~ proline or alanine ~~residue~~;

A8 is ~~represents a~~ tyrosine, alanine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A9 is ~~represents an~~ arginine, citrulline or glutamic acid residue;

A10 is ~~represents a~~ citrulline or glutamic acid ~~residue~~;

A11 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~ or a C-terminal derivative thereof~~which may be derivatized at the C-terminal~~.

25. *(**currently** amended)*: The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein A1 is ~~a~~ glutamic acid ~~residue which is~~ derivatized at the α-amino nitrogen~~N-terminal~~, or A1 is absent~~deleted~~.

26. *(**currently** amended)*: The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein ~~any~~ one of A2, A4, A6, A8 and A9 is ~~a~~ glutamic acid ~~residue~~.

27. *(**currently** amended)*: The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein A5 is ~~represents an~~ arginine or glutamic acid ~~residue~~.

28. *(currently amended):* The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein A5 ~~represents a~~ is glutamic acid ~~residue~~.

29. *(currently amended):* The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein A10 is ~~represents a~~ glutamic acid, arginine or lysine ~~residue~~.

30. *(currently amended):* A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein A11 is ~~represents a~~ glutamic acid, lysine or citrulline ~~residue~~.

31. *(previously presented):* A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient; and

(b) a peptide having the sequence as set forth in any one of SEQ ID NO's: 11-68 or a salt thereof:

(1) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:11);

(2) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:12);

(3) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:13);

(4) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:14);

(5) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:15);

(6) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:16);

(7) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:17);

(8) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:18);

(9) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:19);

(10) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:20);

(11) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:21);

(12) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:22);

(13) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:23);

(14) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:24);

(15) [[H-]]DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:25);

(16) [[H-]]Arg-Glu-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:26);

(17) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Glu-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:27);

(18) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Glu-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:28);

(19) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:29);

(20) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Glu-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:30);

(21) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Glu[[-OH]] (SEQ ID NO:31);

(22) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:32);

(23) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-DGlu-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:33);

(24) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-DGlu-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:34);

(25) [[H-]]DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:35);

(26) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-DGlu-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:36);

(27) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-DGlu-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:37);

(28) Ac-DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:38);

(29) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-DGlu-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:39);

(30) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-DGlu-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:40);

(31) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:41);

(32) guanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:42);

(33) TMguanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:43);

(34) TMguanyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:44);

(35) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:45);

(36) 2F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:46);

(37) APA-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:47);

(38) desamino-R-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:48);

(39) guanyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:49);

(40) succinyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:50);

(41) glutaryl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:51);

(42) deaminoTMG-APA-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:52);

(43) nelfinaviryl-succinyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:53);

(44) AZT-glutaryl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:54);

(45) R-CH2-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:55);

(46) [[H-]]Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:56);

(47) TMguanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:57);

(48) ACA-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:58);

(49) ACA-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:59);

(50) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Arg-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:60);

(51) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Arg-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:61);

(52) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:62);

(53) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:63);

(54) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:64);

(55) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NHMe (SEQ ID NO:65);

(56) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NHEt (SEQ ID NO:66);

(57) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NhiPr (SEQ ID NO:67);

(58) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-tyramine (SEQ ID NO:68).

32. *(previously presented)*: The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 31, comprising [[a]] the peptide numbered (35) and (54) having, respectively, the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:45 or in SEQ ID NO:64.

33. *(previously presented)*: The method according to claim 17, wherein said peptide is a CXCR4 antagonist.

34. ***(currently** amended)*: The method according to claim 17, wherein the α-amino group of the N-terminal amino acid is derivatized by a substituted benzoyl group~~:~~

~~A1 is an arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid residue which is derivatized at the N-terminal, or A1 is deleted;~~

~~A2 represents an arginine or glutamic acid residue if A1 is an arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid residue which may be derivatized at the N-terminal, or A2 represents an arginine or glutamic acid residue which may be derivatized at the N-terminal if A1 is deleted;~~

~~A4 represents an arginine, citrulline, alanine or glutamic acid residue;~~

~~A5 represents an arginine, citrulline, alanine, lysine or glutamic acid residue;~~

~~A6 represents a lysine, alanine, citrulline or glutamic acid residue;~~

~~A7 represents a proline or alanine residue;~~

~~A8 represents a tyrosine, alanine or glutamic acid residue;~~

~~A9 represents an arginine, citrulline or glutamic acid residue;~~

~~A10 represents a citrulline or glutamic acid residue;~~

~~A11 represents an arginine or glutamic acid residue which may be derivatized at the C-terminal~~.

35. ***(currently** amended)*: The method according to claim 34 [[17]], wherein the substituted benzoyl group is as a 4-fluorobenzoyl or a 2-fluorobenzoyl group ~~A1 is a glutamic acid residue which is derivatized at the N-terminal, or A1 is deleted~~.

36 to 38. (CANCELLED)

39. *(currently amended)*: A method for preventing or treating cancers or chronic rheumatoid arthritis in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide ~~having~~ the sequence of which is ~~as~~ set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 11-68, or a salt thereof:

(1) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:11);

(2) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:12);

(3) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:13);

(4) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:14);

(5) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:15);

(6) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:16);

(7) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:17);

(8) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:18);

(9) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:19);

(10) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:20);

(11) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:21);

(12) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:22);

(13) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:23);

(14) Ac-Cit-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Cit-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:24);

(15) [[H-]]DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:25);

(16) [[H-]]Arg-Glu-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:26);

(17) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Glu-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:27);

(18) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Glu-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:28);

(19) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:29);

(20) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Glu-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:30);

(21) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Glu[[-OH]] (SEQ ID NO);

(22) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:32);

(23) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-DGlu-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:33);

(24) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-DGlu-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:34);

(25) [[H-]]DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:35);

(26) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-DGlu-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:36);

(27) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-DGlu-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:37);

(28) Ac-DGlu-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:38);

(29) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-DGlu-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:39);

(30) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-DGlu-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:40);

(31) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:41);

(32) guanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:42);

(33) TMguanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:43);

(34) TMguanyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:44);

(35) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:45);

(36) 2F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:46);

(37) APA-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:47);

(38) desamino-R-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:48);

(39) guanyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:49);

(40) succinyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:50);

(41) glutaryl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:51);

(42) deaminoTMG-APA-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:52);

(43) nelfinaviryl-succinyl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:53);

(44) AZT-glutaryl-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:54);

(45) R-CH2-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:55);

(46) [[H-]]Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:56);

(47) TMguanyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:57);

(48) ACA-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:58);

(49) ACA-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg[[-OH] (SEQ ID NO:59);

(50) [[H-]]Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Arg-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:60);

(51) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Arg-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:61);

(52) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:62);

(53) Ac-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Arg-Lys-DCit-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:63);

(54) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DLys-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NH_2 (SEQ ID NO:64);

(55) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NHMe (SEQ ID NO:65);

(56) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NHEt (SEQ ID NO:66);

(57) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-NhiPr (SEQ ID NO:67);

(58) 4F-benzoyl-Arg-Arg-Nal-Cys-Tyr-Cit-Lys-DGlu-Pro-Tyr-Arg-Cit-Cys-Arg-tyramine (SEQ ID NO:68).

40. *(previously presented):* The method according to claim 39 wherein the sequence of said peptide ~~having the sequence as set forth in~~ is SEQ ID NO:45 or [[in]] SEQ ID NO:64.

41. *(new):* The method of claim 39 wherein said subject is afflicted with cancer.

42. *(new):* The method of claim 39 wherein said subject is afflicted with chronic rheumatoid arthritis.

43. *(new):* The peptide or salt of claim 1, wherein the sequence of said peptide is any one of SEQ ID NO:45, 46, and SEQ ID NOs: 64-68.

44. *(new):* The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the sequence of said peptide is any one of SEQ ID NO:45, SEQ ID NO:46, and SEQ ID NOs:64-68.

45. *(new):* The method of claim 35, wherein the sequence of said peptide is any one of SEQ ID NO:45, SEQ ID NO:46, and SEQ ID NOs:64-68.